



## **SENATE BILL 53**

### *Clean Energy Attribute Credits and Procurement*

**DATE:** January 26, 2021

**POSITION:** OPPOSE

As Maryland's offshore wind developer, US Wind urges you to oppose SB 53.

The Maryland General Assembly first enacted the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) in 2004, which began a purposeful transition to renewable energy development for Maryland's power generation. The General Assembly has continued to re-affirm the use of an RPS system to expand the use of renewable energy power generation at an increasing pace over time. In fact, the General Assembly re-committed to the RPS system by increasing the percentage requirements for procuring renewable energy or renewable energy credits to 50% by 2030 by passing the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA), which became law in May 2019.

Additionally, in 2013, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Maryland Offshore Wind Development Act to encourage the development of offshore wind energy off the state's coast. Much like the original legislation in 2004 created a Renewable Energy Credits (REC) system, the Offshore Wind Development Act of 2013 established the Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) system, which CEJA reaffirmed a commitment to six years later.

The renewable energy industry in Maryland has come to rely heavily on the stability and predictability offered by the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard. US Wind opposes any changes to the use of the Renewable Portfolio Standard and Offshore Renewable Energy Credit structure as a framework for incentivizing renewable energy generation. For these reasons, we oppose SB 53 and urge an unfavorable report.

#### **About US Wind, Inc.**

US Wind was founded in 2011 and has established its position as a premier offshore wind energy development company in the United States. In 2014, US Wind obtained a federal lease for site control to develop approximately 1.5 GW of offshore wind power generation off the coast of Maryland. US Wind is majority owned by Renexia SpA, a leader in renewable energy development in Italy and a subsidiary of Toto Holding SpA. Toto Holding SpA has more than 40 years of experience in large construction and infrastructure projects, primarily in the energy, transportation, and aviation sectors.

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